

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

21

38-32

Action

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Control: 2306

Rec'd:

November 7, 1962
10:20 a.m.

TO
Info

FROM: San Juan

SS

TO: Secretary of State

SR

NO: Unnumbered, November 10, EO or PA exemptions

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RMR

DEPARTMENT OF STATE 10:20 a.m.
REVIEWED by IPB DATE 11/8/62

(X) RELEASE () DECLASSIFY
() EXCISE () DECLASSIFY in PART
() DENY () Non-responsive info.

() CLASSIFY as _____, OADE
() DOWNGRADE TS to () S or () C, OADE

Following confirms telephonic report: Member Legal Staff International Committee Red Cross attending current conference indicated to U.S. Delegate that Soviet Union had approached committee to serve as inspection authority in Cuba several days before first press announcement contained NEW YORK TIMES November 2. After very careful consideration in view uniqueness or role suggested it was determined that committee would agree if accepted by both sides, subject to following conditions: A. that in making inspections the committee would be accompanied by a representative from both sides in order to avoid any later charges of favoritism. B. that in addition to inspections the committee would be allowed to perform its usual humanitarian role in Cuba, and in this regard American prisoners there were specifically mentioned end confirmation interim report:

Conference got off to flying start at opening ceremony on November 4 addressed by Governor Munoz Marin and Mayoress of San Juan, followed by reception at City Hall approximately 150 Cubans carrying anti-Castro placards demonstrated peacefully and good-naturedly at entrance. Opening ceremony held in downtown theatre three page circular letter attacking Castro regime and tailored for Red Cross Conference distributed to Delegates. Situation would have undoubtedly been different had Cubans attended twenty-four (#) lapse between receipt knowledge Cuban withdrawal from Conference and opening ceremony. Fortunate all Latin American countries except Cuba answered roll call at Plenary Session November 5.

Absence Cuba noted but not subject comment. This session confined to explanation conference and adoption of agenda. Delegates

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-2-Unnumbered, November 6, from San Juan

divided into six working groups, which will complete work and begin submitting reports November 9. Press coverage to date good general atmosphere serious and cordial with no divergencies from subject at hand.

FLINN

MCA

NOTE: This telegram received via commercial facilities addressed to Mr. Abba Schwartz

(#) Omission, will be serviced upon request.

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